

## REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed August 4, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 20 and objected to claims 3, 5, 8 and 11-19, but indicated claims 3, 5, 8 and 11-19 and as allowable if rewritten in independent form and/or amended to overcome any 35 USC 112 rejections. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. By way of the foregoing amendments and the markings to show changes, Applicants have canceled claims 1-20 and added new claims 21-45. Newly added claims 21-45 encompass only subject matter that the Office Action indicated as allowable and thus all claims are allowable. The foregoing amendments are taken in the interest of expediting prosecution and there is no intention of surrendering any range of equivalents to which Applicant would otherwise be entitled in view of the prior art.

### I. Information Disclosure Statement

The PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b forms of Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement were attached to the Office Action and several references were crossed-out suggesting that no copies of those references were received by the Examiner. While Applicant sent those references with the original Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant has sent additional copies of those references and listed those references in a supplemental Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith. Applicant requests an indication of consideration of the references.

### II. Drawings

The Office Action objected to the drawings for including the reference numeral 28 in Fig. 3. Such reference numeral has been removed from a replacement drawing submitted herewith.

The Office Action objected to the drawing for failure to show two strips of material with the reference numeral 94. Applicants have revised the specification such that the specification suggests one or more strips.

The Office Action suggested that an A-pillar, B-Pillar and C-pillar need to be shown for claim 11. Applicants have canceled claim 11 and the terms A-pillar, B-Pillar and C-pillar are not in any of the new claims.

### III. Specification

The Office Action objected to the specification for reading “two strips 94” when only one “one strip 94” is shown. Applicants have change the language of the specification to suggest one or more strips 94 to overcome the objection.

The Office Action suggested that “On page 11, line 24, ‘19’ should apparently be ‘14’”. Such change has been made.

### III. Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to claims 1, 11, 12, and 19. Applicant has canceled each of these claims, however, Applicant believes that those objections have been appropriately addressed where needed in the new claims.

### IV. Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112

The Office Action rejected claim 20 for using the term “reinforcement/baffle”. Claim 20 has been canceled making the rejection moot.

### V. Claim Rejections – 35 USC 102

The Office Action rejected various claims under 35 USC 102. Applicant has canceled all claims 1-20 and added new claims 21-45 and each of the new claims represent allowable subject matter as discussed below. Thus the rejections under 35 USC 102 are moot.

### VI. Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated previously pending dependent claims 3, 5 and 8 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. New claims 21, 32 and 39 are respectively previous claims 3, 5 and 8 in independent form and are thus allowable. All other claims are dependent upon claims 21, 32 and 39 and should also be allowable.

By amending the application, the Applicants do not concede that the patent coverage available to them would not extend as far as the original claim. Rather,

Applicants intend to file a continuation application to pursue the breadth of the claims as filed. Applicants believe that the Examiner has not made a sufficient showing of inherency of the teachings of the asserted prior art, especially given the lack of teachings in the cited references of the properties that Applicants have recited in their claims.

Further, by the present amendment, it does not follow that the amended claims have become so perfect in their description that no one could devise an equivalent. After amendment, as before, limitations in the ability to describe the present invention in language in the patent claims naturally prevent the Applicants from capturing every nuance of the invention or describing with complete precision the range of its novelty or every possible equivalent. See, Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., 62 USPQ2d 1705 (2002). Accordingly, the foregoing amendments are made specifically in the interest of expediting prosecution and there is no intention of surrendering any range of equivalents to which Applicants would otherwise be entitled.

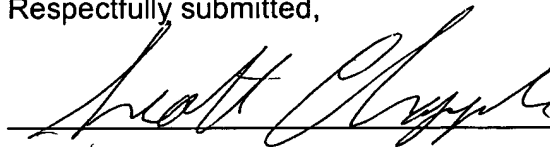
### **CONCLUSIONS**

In view of Applicants' amendments and remarks, the Examiner's rejections are believed to be rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience. Should the Examiner have any question or wish to further discuss this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (248) 292-2920.

If for some reason Applicant has not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1097 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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